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THOMAS, JULIAN.—Cannibals & Convicts: Notes of Personal Experiences in the Western Pacific. Portraits and Map. London, Cassell & Co. 1886. 8vo.

[UPPSALA, ROYAL SOCIETY OF SCIENCES.]—Nova Acta Regiæ Societatis Scientiarum Upsaliensis. [Series II], Vols. 2, 4-14, 1775-1850. [With Plates.] Upsaliæ, Johan Edman, Zeipel et Palmbad, et al. 12 vols., 4to. [Gift from the Royal Society of Sciences, Upsala.]

WHEELER, W. H.—A Practical Manual of Tides and Waves. With Illustrations. London, Longmans, Green & Co. 1906. 8vo.

ZUNTZ, N., LOEWY, A. MÜLLER, FRANZ, UND CASPARI, W.—Höhenklima und Bergwanderungen in ihrer Wirkung auf den Menschen. (Karten, &c.) Berlin, Deutsches Verlagshaus Bong & Co. 1906. 8vo.

BOOK NOTICES.

Das europäische Russland. Eine Studie zur Geographie des Menschen. Von Alfred Hettner. Leipzig und Berlin, B. C. Teubner, 1905.

This is an enlarged and revised edition of a series of articles on Russia in Europe published by the author in the *Geographische Zeitschrift*. Its purpose is to expose the geographic foundations of the Russian people, state, and civilization, which, after a chapter on the physiography of the country of a more introductory character, are studied under the headings of the historical development and its results, the nation, the religions, the state, the settlement and population, transportation, industries, material and intellectual civilization, of the empire. As a study in anthropogeography it becomes of especial value through the discretion of the author in not trying to reduce every possible phenomenon to a simple geographic formula. Not many publications of this kind draw so clearly the line between geographic and non-geographic influences, and the way in which the author shows how the two have in different times co-operated with, or counterbalanced, each other constitutes one of the most interesting features of the book and gives it a methodical value just as great as its informational one. The keynote of the author's presentation is the fundamental difference between the Empire in the Russian lowland and the states of western Europe, to either with their daughter states in the New World. As long ago as the 17th century this disparity caused Leibnitz to place Russia with Persia and Abyssinia, and it forms between Russia and western Europe a barrier larger than that between the latter and the other continents to this day. Russia's seclusion from the Atlantic, the oriental origin of her religion, the Asiatic character of her government—everything contributed to her having nothing in common with the West and its civilization. When the latter was at last artificially introduced it remained a mere superficial varnish of the upper classes, which only served to create a gap between them and the common people. Neither half knew how the other half lived; and their present needs are vitally different. The upper classes are modern men and women, whose ideals and capacities are equal to those of the most progressive nations; while the eighty per cent. of peasant popu-

lation can be compared only to the corresponding classes of Western Europe in the Middle Ages, before the peasant rebellions of the Age of the Reformation. Their immediate needs will be remedied by better methods of government and a just distribution of the land; and those of the future by education, which will enable them ultimately to acquire also political privileges. In this and other respects, the book is an admirable example of scientific geographical study which "neither praises nor condemns, but tries to understand."

M. K. G.

Immanuel Kant, Physische Geographie. Zweite Auflage. Herausgegeben von Paul Gedan. Philosophische Bibliothek, Band 51. Leipzig, Dürrsche Buchhandlung, 1905. (Price, M. 2.80.)

Kant at Königsberg and Gatterer at Göttingen were the first scholars who introduced geography as a science into the curriculum of the university, and for this reason Kant's Physical Geography will never lose its value as one of the fundamental documents of our science. This, and the fact that the book is based, not on the original manuscript of the author, but only on lecture notes of some of his hearers, has caused a considerable number of republications of the book by various scholars even after it had long lost its value as a source of information. This edition by Dr. Gedan is the latest of them, and shows a considerable number of corrections which bear testimony of how carefully every means of getting as near as possible to the author's true meaning has been utilized. In an introductory sketch the editor shows that the author of the *Critique of Pure Reason* was far from treating the subject only as a hobby or side-interest. He announced this course of lectures for no less than 47 semesters and read it in 29. He laid especial emphasis on the educational value of geography, emphasizing the need of a scientific treatment of the subject which should substitute careful examination of the facts for the credulous acceptance of marvellous tales, and he contributed to it himself by original investigations of geological, meteorological, and anthropological problems. In 1756, for instance, he discovered the law of the deviation of the trade winds, independent of Hadley; in 1754 he claimed the necessity of long geological periods in opposition to the theory of cataclysms; and in 1798, in his *Anthropology*, demanded "a natural history . . . which would show the changes of the creatures of the earth being due to migration and subsequent deviation from a few original types," thus anticipating the ideals of Lyell, Darwin, and Moritz Wagner. In the plan of the book it is interesting that the author's conception of physical geography comprises physical geography, strictly speaking, as well as a short systematic zoology, botany, mineralogy, and regional geography of the countries. He evidently understood the term, as even some modern scientists do, as the scientific treatment of natural phenomena in contrast with the merely descriptive treatment. Beside this "physical geography" proper, he places as independent but correlated subjects mathematical geography, "moral" geography (the study of the ethics of the nations upon a geographic basis), political geography, commercial geography, and "religious" geography (the study of religions from a geographic point of view). Thus he approaches Humboldt in the universal conception of the subject, and it is certainly one of the most felicitous circumstances in the history of our science that, when his metaphysical work began to absorb him so as to put a stop to further researches in the concrete sciences, Humboldt was all ready to take up the work where Kant had left it.

M. K. G.